Value of gas to be delivered through HBJ pipeline

915. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI RAMSINGHBHAI PATALYABHAI RATHVA-KOLI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) how much gas is expected to be delivered per day on completion of HBJ project and what will be the sale value of the same;

(b) whether the full quantity of HBJ gas will be utilised right from the beginning; if not, what will be the estimated percentage utilisation of HBJ gas in the initial years;

(c) by when the fullest utilisation of HBJ gas in expected; and

(d) whether it is a fact that non-utilisation of HBJ gas facility will mean a net loss of Rs. 50 lakhs per day to the Government; if so, what action is contemplated to avoid such an eventuality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The HBJ pipeline would, on completion of the project in July, 89, supply about 14 MMCMD of gas to various consumers. This gas is priced at Rs. 2250|1000 M43 (exclusive of all royality, taxes etc.)

(b) to (d) As some of the designated consumers are expected to be delayed, efforts are being made to locate additional consumers so as to utilise the gas to be transported through the pipeline to the maximum possible extent. The extent of loss, if any, would depend upon the actual offtake of the existing and additional consumers being now contemplated.

Complaint against M|s Kiran Gas Agency

916. SHRI K. GOPALAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2547 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st December, 1986 and state:

(a) whether any Member of Parliament has written to Government against M|s. Kiran Gas Agency, Khan Market, New Delhi; and

(b) if so, what was the complaint and what action has since been taken against the concerned gas agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) S|Shri Ram Pyare Suman and K. Gopalan, Members of Parliament have written to Government about delayed supply of LPG refills to them respectively, March and June, 1987. The delay in March occurred owing to absenteeism among delivery staff of the distributor at the time of the Holi festival. In the June case, the refill booked on June 30 was supplied on July 1, 1987 to Shri Gopalan. No action against the distributor has been found necessary considering the recent position of refill booking by and supply to the two Members of Parliament given below:

	Booking	Supply
Shri Suman	6-4-87	6-4-87
	16-4-87	17-4-87
	5-5-87	6-5-87
Shri Gopalan	22-4-87	22-4-87
	15-5-87	15-5-87
	30-6-87	1-7-87

Discovery of new oil wells in Bombay off-shore

917. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new oil wells were discovered recently in the Bombay off-shore region;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the estimates of their oil potential; and

(c) what are the plans being drawn up for the utilization of the above potential?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Since January 1987, oil has been discovered in three wells and their rate of flow is as under:

Name of oil find well	Rate of flow BOPD	Choke size (in rinches)
B-131-1 . . .	2109	
B-179-1 . . .	1930	
B-132-1 . . .	1685	

The potential of these finds would be known after they are delineated by further exploratory drilling. Plans for utilization can be drawn up only after assessment of potential has been made.

Biogas Plants in the country

918. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bio-gas plants so far put up in the country and the estimated saving of the conventional Fuel that has accrued to the nation as a result of the installation of these plants;

(b) whether any useful work has been done so far by the "all India Coordinate Project on Bio-gas" in regard to the micro-biological, biochemical, engineering, extension and socio-economic aspects of biogas technology; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) About 8.4 lakh family based biogas plants have been sat up till end March, 1987. Besides, 264 community and institutional biogas plants have been set up under a separate scheme. It is estimated that these biogas plants are saving about 30 lakh tonnes of fuelwood equivalent per year valued at about Rs. 120.00 crores per year. In addition, they are producing enriched organic manure valued at about Rs. 119 crores per year.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The 'All India Coordinated Project on Biogas Development' gave useful results to rationalise biogas plants design for different agro-climatic conditions, to isolate, screen and identify micro-organisms involved in methane fermentation, to develop cheaper designs by using locally available construction materials, to determine technical viability of large sized floating gas holder type biogas plants, etc. Laboratory and small-scale pilot plants for different feedstocks were set up which have formed the basis of more detailed research and development work now being continued at many other institutions.

Maintenance cases filed by divorced wives

919. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of maintenance of divorced wives under section 125 of the Criminal Procedure Code filed in various law courts throughut the country during each of the last 3 years and the current year so far;and

(b) how far the Supreme Court's decision in the Shah Bano case and the consequential amendment of the Act have affected the fate of such divorced women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The intention of the Hon'ble Members appears to be to know the effect of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986. The said Act came into force w.e.f. 19-5-1986 only and it is too early to assess its effect on the fate of the divorced women.